

Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 FAA-00 EPA-04 COME-00
EB-08 DOTE-00 NASA-02 NAS-01 AID-05 CEQ-01
CIAE-00 SOE-02 DODE-00 INR-10 L-03 NSF-02 NSC-05
NSAE-00 PM-05 ICA-20 SS-15 SP-02 DOE-15 INT-05
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SENV, TPHY, FR, US

SUBJECT: TRIPARTITE AGREEMENT ON STRATOSPHERIC MONITORING

REF: (A) PARIS 10327, (B) STATE 78702

1. WE ARE IN AGREEMENT WITH THE MAJOR POINTS MADE BY THE
FRENCH CONCERNING FUTURE OF TRIPARTITE AGREEMENT. HOWEVER,
AT THE SAME TIME A COUPLE OF ISSUES REMAIN UNCLEAR. FOL-
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LOWING IS OUR REACTION TO WHAT IS RELAYED IN REF A.

2. AS NOTED REF B, WE SEE SOME VALUE IN CONTINUING TO
EXCHANGE SEMI-ANNUAL REPORTS, ON ASSUMPTION THAT THIS CAN
BE DONE LESS FORMALLY THAN HERETOFORE. BRITISH, WE
BELIEVE, THINK THAT DOING AWAY WITH SIX-MONTH REPORTS
WOULD NECESSITATE AMENDING THE AGREEMENT. THIS COMPLICA-

TION, COMBINED WITH UTILITY OF CONTINUING TO EXCHANGE INFORMATION ARGUES FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE SIX-MONTH REPORTS - IF, WE WOULD STRESS, THEIR CONTENT, FORMAT, ETC. CAN BE INFORMAL AND FLEXIBLE.

3. CONCERNING BROADENING OF ACTIVITIES UNDER THE AGREEMENT TO INCLUDE OTHERS (AS OUTLINED PARA 1.B, REF A) WE AGREE THE IDEA IS WORTH EXPLORING. ONE POINT WHICH DESERVES CAREFUL ATTENTION, HOWEVER, IS RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN

ANY SUCH EXPANSION AND ONGOING ACTIVITIES SUCH AS UNEP COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON OZONE LAYER. THAT IS, GOAL SHOULD BE COMPLEMENTARY, BUT NOT OVERLAPPING OR COMPETING ACTIVITIES. IN ADDITION, THERE APPEARS TO BE SOME CONFUSION CONCERNING TIMING OF INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS WHICH MIGHT BE RELEVANT. WE ARE NOT FAMILIAR WITH THE APRIL UNEP MEETING TO WHICH FRENCH REFER. (ANNUAL GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETS IN NAIROBI IN MAY, BUT THIS WOULD NOT BE APPROPRIATE FORUM.) IT IS POSSIBLE FRENCH ARE REFERRING TO NEXT MEETING - PROBABLY IN THE FALL OF 1978 - OF THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON OZONE LAYER, WHICH WAS ESTABLISHED AS RESULT MARCH 1977 UNEP MEETING IN WASHINGTON. (THE FIRST MEETING OF THIS COMMITTEE WAS IN GENEVA, NOVEMBER 1977.) THIS WOULD BE QUITE APPROPRIATE FORUM FOR RELEVANT TRIPARTITE EXPERTS AND OTHERS TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE EXPANSION ALONG LINES SUGGESTED BY FRENCH.

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4. IN ORDER TO PAVE THE WAY FOR SUCH DISCUSSION, AND HOPEFULLY TO AVOID NECESSITY OF ANY FORMAL TRIPARTITE SESSION IN COMING MONTHS, WE WOULD SUGGEST THE INTERESTED EXPERTS OF THE THREE COUNTRIES MEET INFORMALLY DURING THE WMO JUNE MEETING IN TORONTO TO DISCUSS THE SCOPE AND SCENARIO FOR FUTURE ACTIVITIES AND THEIR POSSIBLE EXPANSION. (IF IT IS DETERMINED DURING SUCH DISCUSSION THAT IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO DEVELOP A MINUTE OR SOME OTHER WRITTEN DOCUMENT OUTLINING AGREED PLANS FOR THE FUTURE, THIS COULD BE SUBSEQUENTLY CONFIRMED VIA DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS IF THE FRENCH SO DESIRE.)

5. DRAWING ON THIS MESSAGE AND RELEVANT PARTS OF REF B, EMBASSY PARIS IS REQUESTED TO DISCUSS MATTER FURTHER WITH FRENCH TO SEE IF SCENARIO OUTLINED IN PARAS 2-4 ABOVE SEEMS ACCEPTABLE. EMBASSY LONDON SHOULD PURSUE MATTER WITH BRITISH AND ADVISE PARIS AND WASHINGTON CONCERNING THEIR VIEWS ON THE ISSUES RAISED THIS CABLE AND REFS A AND B. VANCE

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